

COLORADO

SUMMARY OF FY 1997 ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) has identified cross-cutting strategic themes to guide the delivery of environmental services across all programs. In doing so, CDPHE strives to deliver environmental programs in a more holistic and systematic way. The four strategic themes defined below are pollution prevention, environmental customer assistance, compliance assistance, and community-based environmental protection and environmental justice.

- ◆ **Pollution prevention.** CDPHE is placing additional emphasis on building pollution prevention capacity in environmental divisions and programs in 1997.
- ◆ **Environmental customer assistance.** CDPHE is continuing to build on the customer service emphasis begun in last year's Agreement by formulating customer service action plans, developing and distributing permit assistance information, providing electronic access to environmental and permitting databases and responding to customer information requests.
- ◆ **Compliance assistance.** CDPHE is continuing to invest significant effort into enhancing its compliance assistance techniques such as training, workshops, educational materials and other collaborative approaches, and to improving methodologies to measure the progress of such initiatives.
- ◆ **Community-based environmental protection and environmental justice.** Community-based environmental protection (CBEP) is a collaborative approach to improve the effectiveness of environmental programs by designing effective solutions on a community-wide basis in partnership with local governments, business, and other affected parties. CDPHE is recruiting additional proposals for watershed and other community based projects in 1997. CDPHE is seeking at least one additional CBEP project which has an environmental justice focus.

COLORADO (cont.)

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES FOR ACHIEVING KEY GOALS

The tables below summarize Colorado's key goals and objectives.

Air Quality	
Key Goal	Objectives
Achieve zero violation of federal air quality standards and maintain full compliance with state and Federal standards by 2001.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce or maintain the number of carbon monoxide violations in all nonattainment areas from a 1995 total of three days statewide to one or less days per year by 2001.• Reduce the number of particulate violations statewide from 21 in 1995 to less than one per year by 2001.• Reduce the number of ozone violations from 1 or more in 1995 to an average of less than one ozone violation per year by 2001.• Maintain zero violations of lead, SO₂, NO₂ emission standards statewide.
Attain visibility standards in urban areas and prevent significant deterioration of visibility and air quality related values in pristine areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate in the Blue Print for Clean Air process to develop a plan in 1998 to achieve an 80 percent reduction from the 1993-1995 average Brown Cloud levels.• Reduce Impacts in Class 1 areas or maintain acceptable air quality.
Reduce human health effects from air toxins.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce exposure to harmful indoor air pollutants.• Reduce public exposure to toxic pollution emissions.
Reduce Colorado's impact on global pollution problems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce harmful CFC emissions throughout the state through operation of the enforcement and inspection program.• Reduce the amount of global warming gases emitted on a statewide basis.
Integrate pollution prevention programs into state regulatory and non-regulatory programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide incentives and encouragement to businesses to reduce emissions by 10 percent beyond regulatory requirements.

COLORADO (cont.)

Environmental Integration Group	
Key Goal	Objectives
Prevent exposure to citizens or environmental harm from accidental releases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to environmental emergencies in a prompt manner by providing the expertise appropriate to emergency conditions. Adapt the State's Rocky Flats Radiological Emergency Response program to fit the changing conditions that will occur at the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (RFETS) as plutonium stabilization and consolidation takes place. Prepare the State of Colorado for the WIPP transuranic waste shipping program.
Assure that the site of the former Rocky Flats Plant is cleaned up and made safe and assure protection of public health, safety, and the environment during clean-up.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement integrated and coordinated state regulatory oversight and communication programs for the Rocky Flats plant. Provide rigorous independent monitoring and enforcement of the Rocky Flats plant and vicinity to achieve compliance with state environmental regulations and requirements, and other requirements, to protect the health and environment of Colorado. Oversee remediation and decontamination/decommissioning projects to achieve a level of clean-up by DOE that achieves the Rocky Flats Vision and protects public health and the environment.
Develop decision support tools by which to better evaluate, characterize, and communicate major environmental issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate currently selected indicators and continuously refine the next generation of environmental indicators to accurately portray environmental quality in Colorado. Deploy the analysis and display capabilities of GIS to meet the needs of the department for spatial analytical tools. Integrate department GIS efforts with the GIS efforts of other agencies. Develop an improved system of measuring environmental results using environmental indicators. Expand scope of environmental indicators to include business and non-profit indicators as appropriate. Use SARA Title III data to measure pollution prevention progress and to prioritize environmental efforts. Simplify and streamline SARA III reporting, and eliminate duplication in reporting to the greatest extent possible.

COLORADO (cont.)

Environmental Integration Group	
Key Goal	Objectives
Eliminate lead poisoning among Colorado children resulting from exposure to environmental lead.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a statutory framework that will provide state authority for promulgation of appropriate regulations and EPA delegation of the state program. • Formulate appropriate regulatory, fiscal or other initiatives based on adopted statutory authority. • Continue to develop the capacity to address multiple issues concerning childhood lead exposures and poisoning. • Maintain the lead screening program for children under seven years of age. • Formulate an integrated childhood lead exposure reduction strategy and work plan. • Target selected geographic areas of the state with high potential for elevated lead exposures in children.
Reduce the volume, toxicity or use of any hazardous substance or amount of any pollutant or contaminant prior to recycling, treatment, or disposal, and reduce hazards to public health and the environment to accomplish a 20 percent reduction in pollution generation, waste generation, emissions and releases by the year 2001.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate OE Divisions' pollution prevention philosophies and actions into the activities, both regulatory and non-regulatory, of state and local government. • Facilitate the development of a fully functional pollution prevention network in Colorado in order to achieve substantial reductions in the volume and toxicity of pollutants generated and released in the environment. • Provide technical assistance and information of PP to the Governor's Challenge participants, other businesses, governments, and individuals. • Provide PP assistance to the ten industrial sectors in Colorado with highest emissions and highest pollution prevention opportunities. • Continually monitor reductions in emissions and effectiveness of pollution prevention program. • Work with stakeholders to present the Colorado Environmental Leadership Proposal to the Colorado legislature. The Leadership Program will create financial and non-financial incentives to promote pollution prevention by regulated entities. Implement the Colorado Environmental Leadership Program to promote beyond-compliance initiatives if it is enacted by the Colorado Legislature.

COLORADO (cont.)

Environmental Integration Group	
Key Goal	Objectives
Assure public health and environmental protection by achieving a 98 percent compliance rate among all regulated entities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve and encourage higher levels of compliance and improvements of the natural environmental in Colorado. • Assure compliance through inspections, monitoring and enforcement, where necessary. • Develop coordinated and consistent enforcement practices among the environmental protection programs of CDPHE. • Communicate effectively and regularly on the compliance status of regulated entities. • EPA and the State have identified six industrial sectors (agriculture, automotive repair/repair shops, coal-fired power plants, dry cleaners, mining and nonferrous metals and petroleum) that are joint compliance priorities. • Assure that disclosures under the Colorado Audit Law are managed consistently and in accordance with state law.
Assure public health and environmental protection by sound implementation of permitting requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct evaluation of permitting strategies by key CDPHE permit and information technology managers, as well as external customer representatives, who in turn consult with a broader group of permittees.
Assure public health and environmental protection by sound implementation of inspection requirements and practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formulate enhancements to environmental inspections based on an integrated review of inspection practices among environmental programs.
Assure that individuals and communities are treated equitably under Colorado environmental laws and regulations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide health and risk information in communities exposed to long-term and high levels of pollution, and examine the nexus between these polluted areas and race and class information throughout the state.

COLORADO (cont.)

Environmental Integration Group

Key Goal	Objectives
Protect public health and environment by maintaining an ability to respond to changing environmental needs in a timely manner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Analyze the multi-media implications of assigned environmental issues and key policy decisions presented to the executive and legislative branches of state and local government, and citizens of the State.• Simplify, streamline regulations and eliminate outmoded requirements by review of existing and proposed regulations through the Critical Review Team process.• Enhance local capacity to provide health and environmental protection.• Utilize a collaborative approach to rule making, legislation and policy.

COLORADO (cont.)

Hazardous Materials and Waste Management	
Key Goal	Objectives
Pollution prevention and compliance assistance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a voluntary program that encourages an increased level of compliance with regulatory requirements. • Implement a voluntary program of pollution prevention that encourages reduction of the amount and toxicity of wastes generated through waste minimization, treatment and recycling of hazardous wastes, thereby reducing the risks associated with hazardous waste management. Waste reduction of 30 percent by the year 2000. • Integrate compliance assistance, waste minimization, and pollution prevention concepts and waste diversion and recycling into all program activities and support waste minimization efforts statewide.
Hazardous waste operating and closure and post-closure permitting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue operating permits, closure plans, and post-closure permits that include conditions necessary to assure that hazardous wastes are managed in ways that protect public health and environmental quality.
Compliance monitoring and enforcement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure protection of public health and the environment through compliance of regulated facilities achieved by implementation of an effective permitting, monitoring and enforcement program. Detect and deter violations through inspections and enforcement actions and promote compliance with hazardous waste requirements to protect public health and the environment from future violations.
Corrective action.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean up releases of hazardous waste that threaten the public or the environment.
General program management and partnership.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement an efficient and effective hazardous waste regulatory program. • Develop a partnership between the State and EPA that continues and improves that program. • Support this partnership and achieve efficient implementation of a hazardous waste program that reflects goals and objectives of both the State and EPA.

COLORADO (cont.)

Hazardous Materials and Waste Management	
Key Goal	Objectives
Solid waste reduction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Integrate waste minimization and pollution prevention concepts, and waste diversion and recycling into all regulatory and remedial activities and support waste reduction statewide.• Reduce the amount of solid waste land filled annually by 33 percent by the year 2000.• Develop an appropriate and sustainable set of environmental indicators for solid waste and initiate tracking and reporting efforts in support of same.• Continue implementation and maintenance of the state's "core" solid waste management program with improved fiscal, personnel and statutory resources, as needed.• Support voluntary regional waste management solutions and systems especially encouraging rural areas of the state toward regional concepts.• Provide regulatory assistance to businesses and local governments.• Enhance solid waste regulatory review, and solid waste regulation and policy development through consultation with stakeholders.• Promote comprehensive public participation and community outreach for the solid waste regulatory program including education of and two-way communication with the public and constituent groups (community, environmental, industry, legislative, public officials, etc.).• Conduct a statewide capacity and needs evaluation for industrial solid wastes.

COLORADO (cont.)

Hazardous Materials and Waste Management	
Key Goal	Objectives
Superfund.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage projects to achieve cleanups that are: protective of human health and the environment, on schedule, cost effective and reflect community concerns.• Identify as many of the unknown contaminated sites which may pose a risk to human health and the environment through polluted soil and water as possible, and adequately characterize the sites to either disprove environmental concerns or facilitate appropriate cleanup actions to remove these risks.• Optimize public participation and community outreach capabilities and opportunities for all remedial and regulatory programs. Community support of cleanup decisions expedites remediation by eliminating delays due to public concern and litigation.
Voluntary cleanup and redevelopment goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respond to the owners of as many sites as possible, to adequately characterize the sites, to address environmental concerns and facilitate appropriate cleanup actions to remove risks, and to facilitate redevelopment and transfer of contaminated properties, while assuring that adequate cleanup is performed for the proposed land use.
Uranium mill tailings remediation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manage projects to achieve cleanups that are: protective of human health and the environment, on schedule, cost effective and reflect community concerns.

COLORADO (cont.)

Radiation Control	
Key Goal	Objectives
Increase radon awareness to 85 percent so that 26 percent of Colorado homes are tested for radon by 2005, with intervention to reduce radon risk if a test result calls for action (increase to 5 percent).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase awareness by 1 percent to 83 percent; increase in testing by 2 percent to 21 percent and increase mitigation of existing homes with elevated radon levels by .5 percent to 3.5 percent by September, 1997, and work towards adoption of radon-resistant building codes.

Water Quality	
Key Goal	Objectives
Public water system supervision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a safe drinking water supply free of all adverse health effects to all members of the general public.
Monitoring and assessment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor chemical, physical and biological conditions in all state waters so that water quality decisions are well supported with adequate representative data and maintain a statewide database clearinghouse for managing and effectively sharing all water quality data in Colorado. • Convert the majority of groundwater wells constructed by USES and others with known (highly controlled) methods which are useful in indicating groundwater quality trends in intensive agricultural land use areas, into a statewide groundwater monitoring network.
Standard and regulatory development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assure that the water quality standards and regulatory framework for Colorado are based upon sound scientific risk assessment data and adequate representative ambient data. • Assure that Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL's) and corresponding water quality management plans have been developed and are being implemented for all stream segments in each basin of the state where non-attainment waters exist.

COLORADO (cont.)

Water Quality	
Key Goal	Objectives
Pollution prevention and voluntary cleanup.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase the Division's effectiveness in reducing pollution and minimizing compliance issues, by incorporating pollution prevention concepts whenever practical throughout the clean water program, and developing regulations through the WQCC that encourage, and do not inhibit, pollution prevention as the preferred environmental management technique in Colorado.• Employ the concept of voluntary clean-ups as much as is practical in lieu of mandated clean-up efforts.• Have completed and approved Wellhead Protection Programs in place for 150 ground water systems in the state.

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Water Quality	
Key Goal	Objectives
Permit and control program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a fully functional permit and compliance program which ensures that the beneficial uses of surface and ground water throughout the state are not impaired by domestic or industrial wastewater discharges. Inspections based on a approved alternative inspection strategy shall be an integral part of the program. • Assure that to the maximum extent possible all biosolids generated in Colorado are utilized for beneficial purposes while assuring full protection of public health and the environment. • Provide the necessary oversight and support to the state's 28 approved local pretreatment programs to assure that the affected receiving waters, treatment facilities and treatment plant staff are protected from impairment from industrial discharges. • Ensure that each significant industrial user discharging to a publicly owned wastewater treatment works (POTW) that does not have its own pretreatment program, provides the necessary pretreatment so that the POTW, its treatment processes and workers and the receiving water bodies are adequately protected. • Reduce by 5 percent the number of stream miles impacted by storm water discharges of all types, to the maximum extent practicable. • Determine industry sector or watershed priorities (based upon basin level assessment efforts) and conduct targeted outreach to increase compliance with Storm water permits in that sector or watershed. • Reassess, revise as necessary and reissue stormwater permits for Denver, Aurora and Lakewood prior to their expiration dates (approx. May 2001).
Compliance and enforcement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain an overall compliance rate of 98 percent with all water quality regulatory requirements. • Maintain an effective NPDES enforcement program.

COLORADO (cont.)

Water Quality	
Key Goal	Objectives
Water pollution control revolving fund.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide funding to Colorado communities to meet effluent limits and/or provide connections or expansion for the use of capacity at existing facilities.• Assure that the combination of state grants and Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund (WPCRF) loans will be sufficient to enable all domestic treatment facilities that choose to participate in the Financial Assistance Program, to construct any new or expanding treatment works that may be required to maintain compliance with water quality standards. Ultimately the WPCRF will provide funding for 50 percent of the wastewater treatment needs in Colorado.
Mining policy task force.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to work with the Mining Policy Task Force to develop policies and approaches to address abandoned, current, and future mining operations and their impact on water quality.